

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed November 4, 2004 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. Claims 1-7 and 10-16 stand rejected. Claims 8, 9, 17, and 18 are objected to.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a), a one-month extension of time is submitted herewith to extend the due date of the response to the Office Action dated November 4, 2004 for the above-identified patent application from February 4, 2005, through and including March 4, 2005. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(1), authorization to charge a deposit account in the amount of \$110.00 to cover this extension of time request also is submitted herewith.

The rejection of Claims 1-7 and 10-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Burgett et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,768,449) is respectfully traversed.

Burgett et al. describe a device (10) for estimating altitude to facilitate improving the accuracy of barometric altimeters with GPS-derived altitudes. Device (10) includes a processor (18), a barometric pressure sensor (30), and a GPS receiver (24). During calibration of device (10), the processor determines the difference between the altitude based on a barometric pressure reading from sensor (30) and GPS derived altitude. Moreover, the processor determines an average barometer drift since a last altitude calibration was performed. Using a drift model, an altitude is estimated based on the expected error. The drift error model is based on performing a difference of equations at a particular point in time where certain statistical rules are met. Notably, , Burgett et al. do not describe nor suggest that the drift error model is based on repeated measurements at a fixed coordinate location, but rather at column 8, line 50 through column 9, line 13, Burgett et al. describe using an equation to compute altitude from pressure. Moreover, Burgett et al. do not suggest nor describe that such equation is based on empirical studies.

Claim 1 recites a method for estimating altitude, wherein the method comprises generating a drift error model based on repeated measurements at a fixed coordinate

location...obtaining, from said drift error model, an expected error in altitude readings based on the time lapse since the last altitude calibration...calculating an estimated altitude based on the expected error.”

Burgett et al. do not describe nor suggest a method for estimating altitude as recited in Claim 1. Specifically, Burgett et al. do not describe nor suggest a method for estimating altitude, wherein the method includes generating a drift error model based on repeated measurements at a fixed coordinate location. Rather, Burgett et al. describe executing a developed equation to compute altitude from pressure. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Burgett et al.

Claims 2-7 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 1. When the recitations of Claims 2-7 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 2-7 likewise are patentable over Burgett et al.

Claim 10 recites a system for estimating altitude, wherein the system comprises “an input receiving altitude readings... memory storing a drift error model containing an expected error in the altitude readings based on the time lapse since the last altitude calibration...wherein said drift error model is generated based on repeated measurements at a fixed coordinate location.”

Burgett et al. do not describe nor suggest a system for estimating altitude as is recited in Claim 10. Specifically, Burgett et al. do not describe nor suggest a system for estimating altitude, wherein the system includes a drift error model that was generated based on repeated measurements at a fixed coordinate location. Rather, Burgett et al. describe a system that computes altitude from pressure by executing a developed equation. Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claim 10 is submitted to be patentable over Burgett et al.

Claims 11-16 depend, directly or indirectly, from independent Claim 10. When the recitations of Claims 11-16 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 11-16 likewise are patentable over Burgett et al.

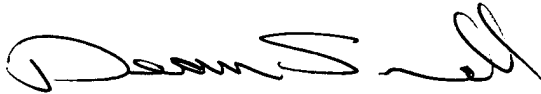
For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-7 and 10-16 be withdrawn.

Claims 8, 9, 17, and 18 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. With respect to Claims 8 and 9, Claims 8 and 9 depend from independent Claim 1 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, when the recitations of Claims 8 and 9 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 1, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 8 and 9 likewise are in condition for allowance.

With respect to Claims 17 and 18, Claims 17 and 18 depend from independent Claim 10 which is submitted to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, when the recitations of Claims 17 and 18 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 17 and 18 likewise are in condition for allowance

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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